

**Metropolitan Education Commission  
Executive Board Meeting  
MEC Office, 930 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.  
Thursday, February 11, 2016, 7:30 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Members present: Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf, Paul Lovelis, Bill Ardern, George Favela, Deborah Embry.  
Members absent: Dr. Kasey Urquidez  
Non-members present: Edward Nossem

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER – PAT WIEDHOPF**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

**2.0 ROLL CALL – PAT WIEDHOPF**

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.

**3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PAT WIEDHOPF**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by all attendees.

**4.0 APPROVAL OF JANUARY 7, 2016 MEETING MINUTES – PAT WIEDHOPF**

Motion to approve: George Favela

Second: Paul Lovelis

Motion approved unanimously.

**5.0 APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 17, 2016 MEC REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – PAT WIEDHOPF**

Motion to Approve: Paul Lovelis

Second: George Favela

Motion approved unanimously.

**6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**6.1 Collaborations – Dr. June Webb-Vignery**

Dr. June Webb-Vignery met with representatives from Family University to discuss a project in collaboration with TUSD that brings parents together to learn about college access. They would like to partner due to the MEC's 501c3 status and previous college access work; which will also give the MEC additional visibility. The MEC will act as a pass-through of \$4,000.00, with the MEC taking 5% for Administrative costs. An event is being planned for March 2016 at Tucson High School.

**6.2 Budget - Bill Ardern**

We have applied for a \$239,000 5-Year Talent Search Grant; the RCAC's mentoring activities are especially suited to the stipulations of the grant. Martha Lee has been approved to serve as the Grant Writer. The grant will serve 500-600

students from Tucson High School, Project MORE, and the Tucson Teen Pregnancy program, and will have linkages to social service agencies.

### **6.3 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon – Dr. June Webb-Vignery**

We have reserved Friday, April 29, 2016 with the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon. We have 14 tables at present: Pima County School Superintendent (Gold Sponsorship), Bill Ardern, Thomas R. Brown Family Foundation, CenturyLink, Flowing Wells Unified School District, Jim Click Automotive Team, Pima Community College Foundation, Pima County JTED, Tech Parks Arizona, Tucson Urban League, University of Arizona Admissions Office, University of Arizona College of Education, June Webb-Vignery.

The Helios Education Foundation will develop a video for the Awards Luncheon, featuring the College Knowing & Going Initiative.

The 2006 CAA Lifetime Achievement Honoree is Dr. John Pedicone. The 2016 Education Advocacy Award Honoree is General Ron Shoopman of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council. The Teacher Honoree is Jennifer Anglin, Flowing Wells Junior High School, Flowing Wells USD; and the Counselor Honoree is Judy Bowers. The Youth Honoree will be selected by YAC/TTC members in the Spring of 2016.

The Crystal Apple Luncheon Committee has recommended that the Corporate Award be presented to Cox Communications for their many years of service to education. Debi Embry had also suggested that a Small Business Award be given to the Robert Elliott Accounting Group for their scholarship activities.

### **Approval of Bob Elliott Accounting to receive the 2016 Crystal Apple Small Business Award:**

**Motion: George Favela**

**Second: Bill Ardern**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Approval of Cox Communications to receive the 2016 Crystal Apple**

**Corporate Award:**

**Motion: Bill Ardern**

**Second: George Favela**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

The only honoree who will speak at the 2016 event will be the Lifetime Achievement Awardee, to save time. Paul Lovelis suggested that we award Certificates to our YAC/TTC members; we will include a page on our youth activities in the Crystal Apple Event Program.

### **6.4 Issues – George Favela**

No issues.

### **6.5 RCAC – David Rodriguez**

(David Rodriguez not present – Dr. Webb-Vignery presented) The Southern Arizona press conference/Kickoff announcing the Helios Education Foundation statewide College Knowing & Going initiative will take place on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. A venue will be secured and invitations sent via email, as an Invitation-Only event.

Dr. Webb-Vignery and Linda Jensen (Helios) met with Richard Fimbres to discuss possible funding for enhanced student tracking through LULAC.

**6.6 Appointments – No action.**

**6.7 YAC/TTC – Paul Lovelis**

The YAC/TTC's is moving forward with its various tasks and initiatives. The Civic Engagement Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 2016. Donations have been secured for a bus from Gray Lines Tours, who will donate a portion In-Kind. Ed Nossem is contacting the schools represented at the Teen Town Hall asking that 2 students from each school be allowed to attend.

A Mock Legislative Role-Playing exercise will take place on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-3:00p.m. at the MEC office.

Paul Lovelis suggested that the MEC find some organization to partner with for permanent funding of YAC/TTC activities. George Favela suggested contacting lobbying firms in Tucson; Debi Embry suggested contacting Ann Marie Medina at the YMCA, who has a Civic Youth Program.

**6.8 Key to Employment Symposium – Ed Nossem**

The K2E took place on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, and ran extremely smoothly. We had 359 students and 72 exhibit tables. The event evaluations were positive. The UA Telemedicine Department made a film recording the UA/Pima 2+2 Transfer Program and the RCAC Workshops for webcasting at a later date. Two UA College of Engineering workshops were also conducted, and all of the workshops were well attended. The Arizona Daily Star and NPR Radio attended and conducted interviews.

Paul Lovelis asked that we secure the 2017 date as soon as possible so that we can solicit a Samsung sponsorship for event expenses.

**7.0 ADJOURNMENT – PAT WIEDHOPF**

Motion to approve: Deborah Embry

Second: Paul Lovelis

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.